

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES**  
**FREDERICK SENIOR CENTER**  
**February 9, 2009**

<b>DOA MEMBERS</b>	<b>DOA STAFF</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>	<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>
Suzan M. Adams	Margaret Nusbaum	Judy Peterson	Ona M. John Kile	Richard Cody
William P. Allen, PhD	Susan M Ramsburg Recording Sec	Virginia Skelley		
Earl S. Beck, PhD	Carolyn True			
Rae Ann Butler				
Harold A. Ehart, Jr., Chair				
David Gray, Comm.				
Lloyd Hoover				
Alan Imhoff, Alderman				
Louise Lynch				
Burt Shawver				
Robert Wannemacher				

- I. **Call to Order – Hal Ehart, Chair**, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – Hal Ehart welcomed all attendees and introductions/affiliations were made.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – - The minutes of the January 9, 2009 meeting were approved. All were in favor.
- IV. **Commissioner's Report** – The County Commissioners are still waiting to hear if the stimulus bill will pass and how much the state will receive. The hope is that this will take some of the pressure off the county budget. The 2010 budget will be bigger challenge than 2009.

**Alderman's Report** – Alderman Imhoff reported that the City Planning Commission has given its approval for Citizen's Care and Rehab. All issues have been resolved. The City budget is okay for this year.

There is a possible property tax rate cut for next year. No progress has been made on the property tax rate cut for seniors at this time.

**USM Rally, Richard Cody** – Local delegates were there to discuss some ideas. There was also some discussion on the budget and what would need to be cut. There is not a lot of interest in the slots due to high risk/low compensation for investors. Some of the issues that were prompted by the USM were discussed.

- V. Housing Update, Pete Allen** – There is a handout available at this meeting, *The Frederick County Housing Census Report for 2009*. This report indicates how many rentals units are available and the restrictions attached. There is funding available for low income housing but none for senior specific housing. There is a bill being drafted for the Community Land Trust Program.

**Strategic Plan 2009-2012, Louise Lynch** – The Strategic Plan was discussed at this meeting. The plan was first developed last year and is being brought forward. This plan was formally adopted today. One revision was to change the title to *Strategic Plan 2009-2013*. A second change was under the Second Goal, Objective 2; add the word *senior* before minority. This plan will be presented to the BoCC along with a Work Plan which will include specific goals and follow up. This will be a working document for this year.

**2009 COA Work Plan, Group Discussion** – The work plan for this year will be to network with seniors in the community to find out what issues concern them. There are five senior center and one nutrition site and members of the commission will sign up today to visit one of the centers in lieu of next month's meeting. It is very important to work closely with other senior organizations. Carolyn will be meeting with the Senior Center Coordinators to inform them of this goal and enlist their assistance. Hal will inform the members who are not present today of this plan.

**2009 Schedule/Meeting Times, Group Discussion** – There was much discussion on how many meetings would be realistic if members will be spending time visiting the senior centers. The CoA members will use March meeting time to visit the Senior Centers and discuss findings at April's meeting. There is nothing in the Commission By-Laws that stipulate that how many business meetings are required per year. The Commission would like to have a forum with the BoCC in October of this year.

- VI. Director's Report, Carolyn True** – The Department of Aging will be hosting the Towson RN students again this year. They will be here

every week and will be working with some of the staff. There will be a health fair again this year. The date for that is April 8<sup>th</sup>.

The DoA has an intern for this semester. She is an FCC student and she will be job shadowing in the Ombudsman program. Her focus will be on health policy and advocacy.

The MOW program has discontinued its partnership with Vindobona nursing home. The participants have been moved to other routes or are being assisted with other measures.

Due to budgeting issues and frozen positions, there has been a shift in staffing duties. The Guardianship Coordinator will be helping with the I&A program, and Carolyn will be helping with the Guardianship Program. There will be no transportation at the Urbana Center for now. Other services at Urbana have not been interrupted. The I&A program has had an increase in the number of calls for assistance. The needs are greater and more time consuming. The increases are being tracked and documented.

Louise Lynch noted that the State Commission will be meeting on Wednesday and they will be going to Department of Aging budget hearings in Annapolis to discuss funding cuts which are being proposed. There is an article in the *Generations* magazine regarding the decrease in federal funding over time.

**VII. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Ramsburg,  
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:

**No March Meeting**

**April 13, 2009 – COA Meeting at 1:00 pm, Frederick Senior Center, 1440 Taney Avenue, Frederick, MD 21702.**